

State/Local

Police, kidnappers shoot it out; man freed after enduring torture

EL PASO (AP) — Mexican kidnappers tortured a victim with beatings and electric shocks after they released his two sons and a friend, police said Wednesday.

Danny Jose Duran, 28, was released by his captors Tuesday after he was involved in the kidnapping. He got in a shootout with state judicial police in Juarez. El Paso police Lt. Paul Saucedo said.

The kidnappers had demanded \$10,000 for Duran's release, but didn't get it. They freed Duran's sons, ages 3 and 5, and an unidentified male friend after Duran's wife posted more than \$2,000 ransom on Jan. 11, the day the four were abducted in Juarez.

Any motive besides the ransom demands remained a mystery, Saucedo said.

Meanwhile, a suspect wounded in the right side of the chest during the shootout had not yet been questioned Wednesday, said Jose Refu-

gio Rubalcava, commander of the state police in Juarez. Antonio Marquez Zepeda, 28, a professional wrestler and bus driver in Juarez, was charged with kidnapping, he said. The suspect was in stable condition Wednesday at Juarez General Hospital, Rubalcava said.

Two other suspects escaped from the shootout scene in a pickup truck and then on foot, he said.

The shooting started when the kidnapping suspects arrived at an intersection in downtown Juarez to pick up \$10,000 ransom for Duran. State police were waiting and moved in, Saucedo said.

About an hour after the noontime shootout, Duran's kidnappers put him in a car and drove around before dropping him off in the village of Zaragoza, southeast of Juarez, Saucedo said. He added that Duran was blindfolded throughout the weeklong ordeal and does not know where he was held.

Duran hitched a ride to an international bridge, walked across and called some friends, who took him to Providence Hospital, Saucedo said.

"It appears he had been tortured," Saucedo said. "His face was bruised, his hands were swollen and he had several burn marks around his body. They appeared to be from a cattle prod-type device."

Duran's sons and friend were released unharmed near their El Paso homes about midnight Jan. 11, he said.

The three were released after two men visited Duran's home the afternoon of Jan. 11 and demanded \$2,000 cash. They said they knew where the cash was and took it, along with a videocassette recorder and a television set, Saucedo said.

Police did not know of the kidnapping until Duran's wife — whom Saucedo declined to identify — called El Paso police Monday to tell

them her husband had been abducted and his captors were demanding \$10,000 for his release.

The sons and friend, all of whom officials declined to identify, said they had gone to Juarez and were abducted there by several men wearing military uniforms, Saucedo said.

El Paso police notified Juarez police of the kidnapping, and the two agencies coordinated the dropoff attempt that resulted in the shootout. No one else was harmed, officials said.

Police and FBI officials said they were being secretive about the victims' names because of fear of retribution.

"We're really worried about the welfare of the family," Saucedo said, adding the family has been relocated temporarily.

He said police don't understand why the kidnappers chose those particular victims.

Public hearing begins on proposed property insurance increase

AUSTIN (AP) — The insurance industry Wednesday asked for a 9.1 percent increase in statewide property insurance premium rates while the state's consumer representative requested a 0.5 percent decrease in a hearing before the State Board of Insurance.

The three-member insurance board will probably make a decision within the next few weeks, according to Chairman Edwin J. Smith Jr. The rate changes are proposed to go into effect March 1.

The board's staff has recommended a 7.2 percent increase in property insurance rates. The staff recommendation includes an 8.2 percent increase in homeowners insurance.

Last year, the board cut Texans' annual property insurance premiums by 3.6 percent.

Kay Doughty, public counsel of the Office of Consumer Protection, said property insurance rates should drop again. She said the insurance industry can sustain a lower profit margin because its investment income is substantial.

She also said the industry has inflated its expenses in devising its recommended increase.

But Rick Gentry, a spokesman for the insurance industry dismissed that claim.

"I think anyone who is intimately familiar with the property insurance market in Texas realizes there is a great deal of competition. So one of the ways you compete is you try to hold expenses down to a minimum," he said.

An increase in property insurance rates is needed because of generally poor experience across all property lines, Gentry said.

In addition, he said, insurance companies have to be allowed to make a reasonable profit. Gentry said if Ms. Doughty's recommendation were enacted, insurers might leave the state.

The Insurance Board sets the maximum property insurance rates, and many companies sell policies below that rate. In 1987, 87 percent of the homeowners' insurance market was purchased for an average 17

percent below the maximum rate, according to the board's staff.

The state is divided into three rating territories, with the coastal counties divided into a first and second tier.

An annual insurance policy with a 1 percent deductible on a \$75,000 home would cost the following under the industry's recommended rate increase:

—In Corpus Christi, in the first tier of the seacoast rating territory, insurance for a brick home would cost \$550, a \$48 increase; and \$717 for a frame home, a \$62 increase.

—In Houston, in the second tier of the seacoast rating territory, insurance for a brick home would cost \$486, a \$42 increase; and \$622 for a frame home, a \$54 increase.

—In Austin, in the central inland rating territory, insurance for a brick home would cost \$402, a \$38 increase; and \$483 for a frame home, a \$46 increase.

—In Lubbock, in the north-northwest rating territory, insurance for a brick home would cost \$608, a \$51 increase; and \$839 for a frame home, a \$71 increase.

Girl reports Cain Hall sex assault

A 14-year-old girl reported Friday that she was sexually assaulted by an acquaintance in Cain Hall.

Bob Wiatt, director of security and campus police, said the matter has been turned over to the district attorney's office for investigation and that no charges have been filed.

Under current law, if a complainant is more than 13 years old, the district attorney's office must prove that the complainant did not give consent or had no record of being promiscuous in the same type of sexual activity.

Statutory rape is a second-degree felony with a penalty of 2-20 years in prison.

Doctor stresses importance of parent-child attachment

By Melissa Naumann
Reporter

In a world of working parents and children in daycare centers, parents and children need time to get to know each other, Dr. T. Berry Brazelton explained Wednesday in a lecture called "Working and Caring".

Brazelton, a clinical professor of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, explained that the major issues in the United States revolve around children.

"This is a transitional period, full of turbulence and anxiety," he said. "But with all of this turmoil, who's going to tend the children?"

Brazelton has addressed Congress in support of child care bills, and he has stressed the idea of "attachment" to complete the early child development.

"A parent needs time to really attach to the baby and believe that he knows him as a person," he said.

Brazelton pointed out various early stages that are vital to the behaviors," he said. "After seven days, a baby chooses his mother's voice over all other female voices. After 10 days, he chooses his mother's silent face over other faces. And, after 14 days, he chooses his father over all other men."

Since an infant's early behavior is crucial to his later behavior, Brazelton recommends four months to complete the attachment.

"We have strong stages of rhythmic, interactive behavior in the first few months," he said. "Suppose parents get torn away before attachment is completed?"

Brazelton's fight for child care legislation has stressed the urgency of the issue.

"How do we protect the attachment process so it can go on in the fantastic way it begins?" he said. "As a nation, we've got to get on with it."

"A parent needs time to really attach to the baby and believe that he knows him as a person."

- Dr. T. Berry Brazelton, Harvard pediatrics professor

relationship between a parent and an infant.

"These are powerful and critical

Crisis center announces class times

The Brazos County Rape Crisis Center will have training classes for new volunteers Feb. 6-18 in the evenings and on Saturdays.

Volunteers will be trained to become hotline advocates, escort advocates or Friends of the Family advocates.

Rape Crisis Center volunteer coordinator Valorie Greer said interested people should call the center at 779-7273 Monday through Friday during business hours for an application and an agenda.

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1/18 WED.	I.F.C. Fraternity Life Seminar 203 Zachary	6:45 p.m.
1/19 THUR.	Back to School Blowout (Open) Band—"Patio Furniture" (BYOB)	9:30 p.m.
1/22 SUN.	Cookout at the Tau House (Invite)	
1/24 TUES.	Poker Smoker (Invite)	
1/27 FRI.	Casino Time in Rio (Open) DJ: The Dance Servants (BYOB)	9:30 p.m.
1/28 SAT.	Burger Bash (Invite)	

Kyle King
846-8442

Todd Murray
696-1442

Tau House
822-4242

